

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

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FOR S/NM FALCO AND IO/HDC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR UN APER AORG
SUBJECT: INCB - POSITION OF BOARD SECRETARY

SUMMARY: AT PRIVATE MEETING MAY 23, INCB VOTED TO DENY
EXTENSION OF TERM OF INCUMBENT BOARD SECRETARY. IT ALSO
ESTABLISHED SUB-COMMITTEE TO PREPARE SUGGESTIONS RE HIS
SUCCESSOR. INCUMBENT MAY SEEK TO HAVE UN-SYG OVERRIDE
BOARD DECISION. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING OF ANY
EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION. END SUMMAY

1. AT PRIVATE MEETING MAY 23, (ONLY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT),
BOARD TOOK UP SUBJECT OF SECRETARY STPECZYNSKI'S REQUEST
THAT BOARD DECIDE NOW ON HIS REQUEST FOR EXTENSION BEYOND
RETIREMENT AGE 60, WHICH OCCURS AUG 19, 1978. PRESIDENT
REUTER DELIVERED EXTENSIVE FACTUAL "WHITE PAPER" ON
STPECZYNSKI'S STEWARDSHIP OF THE BOARD SECRETARIAT,
NOTING AMONG OTHER POINTS, REMARKABLE DECLINE IN
MORALE OF SECRETARIAT DURING THIS PERIOD. AFTER VARIOUS
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EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION BY MEMBERS INCLUDING SOME IN FAVOR
OF DELAYING DECISION (BARKOV - USSR, CHRUSCIEL - POLAND
AND FUENTES - MEXICO), PRESIDENT UNDERTOOK TO FIND
CONSENSUS IN FAVOR OF POSTPONING DECISION. OTHER
MEMBERS PROPOSED, HOWEVER, THAT VOTE BE TAKEN ON WHETHER
TO CONSIDER QUESTION NOW. PRESIDENT TOOK VOTE BY SHOW
OF HANDS ON WHETHER QUESTION SHOULD BE POSTPONED. RESULTS

WERE: 9 AGAINST POSTPONEMENT, 3 IN FAVOR AND PRESIDENT ABSTAINED.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT SECRET BALLOT ON WHETHER SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION SHOULD BE GRANTED, RESULTS WERE 7 AGAINST EXTENSION, 5 IN FAVOR AND PRESIDENT AGAIN ABSTAINED.

3. PRESIDENT AND BOARD THEN AGREED TO ESTABLISH SUB-COMMITTEE TO COME UP WITH SUGGESTIONS ON SUCCESSOR. MEMBERS ARE KAYMAKALAN (TURKEY), SALEH (IRAN) AND BARKOV (USSR). PRESIDENT SUGGESTED THEY MIGHT CONSIDER INCB SECRETARIAT MEMBERS DAVIES, BAHİ AND FONDUMIERE AND DND STAFF MEMBER MANUECO-JENKINS. BOARD MEMBER GARCES (COLUMBIA) ALSO SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO RAMOS-GALINO, PRESENT DEPUTY TO SECRETARY. SUB-COMMITTEE COMMENCED INTERVIEWING PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES MAY 24. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER BOARD WILL DECIDE QUESTION THIS SESSION.

4. PRESIDENT REUTER CAUTIONED ALL MEMBERS AGAINST DISCUSSING MATTER AND UNDERTOOK HIMSELF TO INFORM SECRETARY OF BOARD'S DECISION. REUTER INFORMED STEP CZYNSKI MAY 24. LATTER RECEIVED NOTIFICATION WITH APLOMB, PRESUMABLY HAVING ALREADY BEEN INFORMED OF RESULTS. HE MERELY COMMENTED THAT DECISION ON HIS REQUEST FALLS WITHIN COMPETENCE OF SECRETARY GENERAL, THEREBY ECHOING THEME STRUCK BY CHRUSCIEL (POLAND) DURING PREVIOUS BOARD DISCUSSIONS.

5. COMMENT. SINGLE CONVENTION AS AMENDED PROVIDES (ARTICLE 16) THAT "SECRETARY OF BOARD SHALL BE APPOINTED CONFIDENTIAL

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BY SECRETARY-GENERAL IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD." IN VIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH MUST EXIST BETWEEN BOARD AND HEAD OF ITS OWN SEPARATE SECRETARIAT, IT WOULD SEEM REASONABLE TO INTERPRET THIS PROVISION AS AT LEAST GIVING BOARD A VETO OVER WHO IS APPOINTED ITS SECRETARY. MISSION ANTICIPATES SECRETARY MAY UNDERTAKE TO HAVE SYG OVERRIDE BOARD DECISION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE USUN BEING ALERT TO THIS POSSIBILITY AND INFORMING US OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS DIRECTION. SORENSON

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